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1854 September 4: J.G. Bennett, Editor of New York Herald, to Governor Elias N. Conway, Request for crop statistics from Arkansas

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[PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL.]

NEW-YORK, SEPT. 4 1854.

Dear Sir :—

A great drought has afflicted the country, unprecedented in its duration and extent. It must materially affect our financial and industrial exchanges, the subsistence of our people, and our general prosperity.

We desire, therefore, to collect from the different sections of the Union, for the public information, authentic facts of the state of the crops, especially of corn, cotton and potatoes, and their probable yield as compared with an average crop. To this end, we take the liberty of addressing you, and request that you will communicate to this office such facts and estimates as you may be able to command in reference to the great staples of your commonwealth, and the extent and effect of the drought, in the reduction of your crops.

In exchange, copies of the NEW-YORK HERALD, containing all the intelligence thus collected from all quarters, will be sent to your order, or, if desired, an equivalent will be given in cash for practical and useful information. The fuller your details, the better. Please answer at your earliest convenience, and address,

J. G. BENNETT,

EDITOR N. Y. HERALD,

New-York.

Sept 4. 1854
 New York
 James G. Bennett
 to Genl. G. N. Downey
 requesting information
 in regard to crops